

Supporting "The Campaign to Decriminalize Holocaust History"

When I sat down to begin to write this letter it was the first Saturday in July. As I moved along with the typing it occurred to me that the next day, Sunday, would be the Fourth of July—the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the firebombing and destruction of the Institute for Historical Review, the birthplace of Holocaust revisionism in America.

The Fourth of July, 1984! What a date, eh?

wenty years ago! I was fifty-four years old. It's been suggested that no guy over half a hundred years old, if he has good sense, would do what I did then. Overnight I decided to throw in my lot with those who were writing journals and publishing books perceived to be so dangerous to the political and cultural values of those who want to rule us that they had to be destroyed. They had to be "burned," just like the fabled "six million." Only in this instance, no one had arguments to demonstrate that the event did not take place.

The decision to throw my lot in with the revisionists was not a struggle for me. I didn't weigh the pros and cons of what it would mean for my life, how I would take care of a family, what would happen when I got old. I just jumped in like I already knew how to swim in those waters. I made the leap with a light heart. It was as if I were flying. There was no sense of foreboding, only the knowledge that I would be doing something that needed to be done, and that I might be able to do it well.

I understood revisionist arguments about the Holocaust to be fundamentally correct, and important every bit as important as those who thought revisionism should be destroyed, along with revisionists themselves. I would take revisionism to the people, as it were. I would start from the bottom up. It had been in the hands of the politicos and academics for too long.

I began in 1984 with Prima Facie, a newsletter backed by IHR and distributed to 4,000-plus journalists monthly. Prima Facie demonstrated how specific journalists repeated demonstrably false claims about the Holocaust in the mainline press. As it turned out, journalists didn't care for Prima Facie. They stonewalled it. We decided we might as well let it go.

rom the beginning my idea From the beginning at a time, was to try one thing at a time, and go with the one that worked. I proposed that we move on to radio, and through radio to the people themselves. IHR agreed to let me take a run at it. I created the IHR Media Project. That was in 1985. Unlike journalists themselves, a minority of talk show hosts very much liked to discuss how journalists repeated demonstrably false claims about the Holocaust. The IHR Media Project was very, very successful. Nothing like it had ever been done, or even attempted. Over a period of six years I gave hundreds of interviews to radio

and television talk shows and news broadcasts.

While I was booking radio all over America, Mark Weber and I struck up a correspondence. At that time he was living in Nebraska and had not yet joined IHR. Mark came up with the idea to form The Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust (CODOH). We came to a meeting of mindsthere was nothing else involved-and Mark wrote the essay that would become the first document published by CODOH, "The Holocaust: Let's Hear Both Sides." Step by step CODOH would become, following IHR, the best-known organization in American revisionism.

The time came, after some five or six years with the Media Project, when I understood that while I was doing good work, it wasn't media where the problem was, but in academia. It was the professors who were responsible for the fraud and falsehood in the Holocaust story. Journalists only repeated what the academics assured them was true. It' was time for me to go on campus.

By the early 1990s, IHR was having legal and financial problems. I had begun to publish *Smith's Report* irregularly. A small group of supporters was helping me. I began the Campus Project, running one and two-inch ads in student newspapers suggesting that there was something wrong with the Holocaust story. I gave a PO Box address where readers could get information. Such an ad, running weekly in *The Collegian* at Penn State U. and paid for by a Pennsylvania supporter, developed into the first major story for the Project.

One supporter, then another, offered to pay for other ads. Then John Anderson, a Chicago supporter, offered to pay for a full-page ad in the *Daily Northwestern*. That was the turning point. Anderson and I worked on the text for the essayadvertisement for weeks. When it ran in the *Daily*, it created a scandal on the Northwestern campus, and a firestorm of attention in the print press.

Most importantly, the story that we created at Northwestern caught the attention of a Smith's Report reader in Oregon. A businesswoman, she saw the potential for revisionism in running such advertisements in campus papers. She was an activist by nature. She had recently been arrested for sliding revisionist leaflets under the windshield wipers of cars belonging to local high school teachers. She saw the potential of the Campus Project. Over the next nine years she was the primary source, though not the only source, of funding for everything I did.

The Campus Project became the most successful revisionist outreach effort ever made in America. Year after year after year we took revisionism to university and college students all over America, and to a few campuses in Canada. We ran full-page and quarter-page essayadvertisements in hundreds of student newspapers. In academia, Holocaust revisionism became recognized as a living movement. A "lie" of course. "Evil" certainly. But a living thing.

In 1995, with the Campus Project running full steam ahead, a small group of us founded CODOHWeb on the Internet. I was a "hands-off" director. I was responsible, finally, for what was published on CODOHWeb and what was not, but nearly all the hands-on work was done entirely by volunteers. CODOHWeb quickly became the primary resource for revisionist documents and news. At the beginning we received about 3,000 hits a month. By the end of the 2000-2001 academic year we were approaching 950,000 hits every thirty days. Important Internet Web sites were proliferating all over the World Wide Web.

While all that was going on, I was still managing the Campus Project. It was an incredibly labor-intensive project. During any academic year it was necessary that I interact with hundreds of sales reps, editors, journalists on and off campus, professors, and the immense amount of email that it all produced. It was a dawn to dusk—and longer—effort.

On top of the Campus Project there was CODOHWeb. While almost all the work was done by volunteers, I had responsibilities there too. And then there was Smith's Report. While SR is a simple document, it takes a week, and sometimes longer, to get it done. This Report is absolutely critical for me to produce. It is here that I make contact with potential supporters, and where I keep supporters up to date with what I am doing. Without this newsletter, I would be out of business. Apart from my social security check, I have no other income. Without this newsletter, I would not have gotten funding for the Campus Project-or for anything else.

In 1997 I was in a financial impasse. I was running the Campus Project, for which there were expenses that were not entirely covered by my patron. T was overseeing CODOHWeb and doing Smith's Report, but that wasn't enough for me. 1 was probing other projects as well. My wife had cancer and there were a lot of medical expenses. I got to the place where I could not pay the rent on our house. I called ten supporters. told each of them that I could no longer make it in the States, and that I was going to have to pack everything up and move to Mexico. I needed their help to get us there. You guys know who you are. You came through for me like knights in shining armor (to coin a phrase).

We had been working on a house in Baja since 1989. It wasn't finished (it still isn't), but we sold some of what we had, threw away what we could, and moved the rest to Mexico. Once we were settled in I found a lawyer near San Diego and we filed bankruptcy. It was for \$64,000. I felt a mixture of guilt and relief. Meanwhile, I went straight ahead with the work. CODOHWeb and the Campus Project continued on their very successful arc.

During the 2000-2001 academic year I found myself in a new crisis, not a financial one, but a crisis that was more personal and very deep. I was increasingly aware of the fact that for ten years I had been writing less and less. I got into revisionism as a writer, and then I got so busy with the (absolutely essential) busywork that I didn't have time to write.

The volunteers who had done such a tremendous job with CODOHWeb were beginning to return to their real lives. I had had to begin to take on part of that work. The Campus Project remained exceedingly laborintensive. And I was not writing. That fact, that I was not writing, became the pivotal reason for me to make decisions that I am living with now, and will for the foreseeable future.

I. decided I would freeze CODOHWeb where it was and leave it as a "library" of revisionist documents. And, more importantly, I would end the endless labor of the Campus Project and turn to finishing the book that I was supposed to be working on but never had time to work on. I would finish the book and take it on the road. I would take revisionism to the public in a new, fresh way, a way that no revisionist had even attempted. I would go straight to the people.

I would create a new story, from a new angle. The guy who had taken revisionism to radio, to the campus, to the World Wide Web, would kick off a unique new campaign in the simplest, most direct way possible: he would go on the road with his book a book unlike any other published by a revisionist. He would put a human face on revisionism in a way that no revisionist had yet done—going face to face with the people.

Putting an end to the Campus Project was the most difficult decision I had made since getting into revisionism. Over a period of nine years my patron had put tens of thousands of dollars into the project. Together, we put revisionism on the map on the college campus. We had just finished a season where we had run a powerful essay-advertisement on the use of a fraudulent Auschwitz photograph by the Simon Wiesenthal Center. The ad had run in student newspapers at 73 campuses. She argued that we should not try to "fix" a project that was not broken. I sent her a draft manuscript of my book. She was not interested. We agreed to say goodbye to one another. From that moment on I have been in a different world.

By the beginning of the 2002-2003 academic year I had finished *Break His Bones* and it was at the printers. I was investing hundreds of hours studying Internet marketing and Web site strategies. I had a hundred—more accurately "hundreds" of ideas about how to promote *Bones*, and how to use *Bones* to promote revisionism on campus and on the Internet both. I would make of it a great story, a great scandal, as I had with my other projects. I thought it would be easy.

But this time, something went wrong. I would try one idea for marketing *Bones*, and at the first suggestion of failure I would turn away from that tactic to try another. After all, there were "hundreds" of tactics that I could try. Distracted by a sea of "information," I turned from one idea to another, abandoning each at the first rejection. That year became the first since 1985 that I accomplished nothing of value for revisionism. I had become accustomed to success in attracting media. Much of it was "bad" media, but that's the nature of this game where revisionism is concerned. The possibility of failing to get media, failing to market Bones and revisionism at the same time, had not even crossed my mind.

But there I was. The 2003-2004 academic year would soon be upon me. I wanted to do something dramatic. The most dramatic action I could imagine would be to take *Bones* onto campus and speak to student audiences. In the early 1990s it had been easy, and I supposed it would be easy now. Looking back over recent months I recall what is said about old generals—that they are inclined to fight their last war rather than the one that faces them now.

In August of 2003 I received an lemail message from Christopher Cole. He suggested that it might be helpful if I would go at the work from a new perspective, one that very few people could reasonably argue against. His idea was to form an American "Campaign to Decriminalize Holocaust History" (CDHH). I had never met Cole (1 still haven't) and was only vaguely aware of his writing. I got hold of some opinion pieces he had written for the Los Angeles Times.

His politics were not mine, they were too far left, but we were on the same page about the importance of intellectual freedom, particularly with regard to Holocaust revisionism and the history of World War II generally. The concept fitted in perfectly with my upcoming work on campus. Who would want to argue against the decriminalization of the study of an historical question? Cole drafted a "statement of principle" for CDHH and we went back and forth on it for several weeks. The fall months of the 03-04 academic year were coming to a close when we finished the document.

Readers of SR are aware of the recent history of the new Campus Project, so I won't go over it again. The first rooms I booked on campus for March fell through. I was able to book three in April, San Jose State, Berkeley, and Cal State Chico. You will recall that while the events themselves were not particularly successful, the experience was invaluable for me, and that I returned to Baja with a great enthusiasm for the project.

What's past is past. Here we are now. What are we going to do? What am I going to do?

## THE STRATEGY REMAINS THE SAME.

We will set about booking lecture rooms on campus, booking interviews on talk radio, and marketing *Break His Bones*. The first one that "catches fire" is the one we will focus on making the most of. Nothing succeeds like success, as the old Brit had it. All work with media will be sponsored by The Campaign to Decriminalize Holocaust History (CDHH). How many professors, how many radio talkers, will want to argue that we *should* criminalize the study of one historical event?

While strategy remains what it was, tactics are evolving based on real experience. I will focus on booking one campus speaking date at a time and making the most of it, rather than try to set up mini tours which are likely to be the source of many unavoidable problems.

One event, well organized and well promoted, will create more press for us than several small events that together will be more than we can handle—at this stage of the game. Of course, if it comes about that two or three dates can be set up in an organized and practical way, I will do them all. I'll do what is most practical and most promising at any given time

With regard to radio, I will first emphasize booking interviews on programs that have listening audiences of at least 100,000. I will use the campus talks and radio interviews to argue that the growing censorship and criminalization of Holocaust revisionism is wrong, and against the ideals of American culture and the university itself.

That I have a book to sell will not play a major role in the talk. The purpose of the talk is to present information that the audience, on campus or via radio, does not have. About the prosecution and imprisonment of revisionists. And about the significance of revisionist arguments with regard to the moral justification of U.S. policies in the Middle East. The interests of the audience come first. If I give a good talk, some in the audience will be interested in the book.

And then there is the creation of an Internet email newsletter that will function as a press release distribution center, informing readers of what we are doing on campus, with radio, and with *Break His Bones*.

#### BOOKING CAMPUS ENGAGEMENTS

ne of the benefits of having done the tour in April was to discover that the campus for revisionists today is not what it was in the early 1990s. Before the tour, before learning through direct experience, I could only speculate about the environment on campus. Now I know. Revisionism no longer has the "glamour" of something new. Those who front for the Holocaust Industry, particularly the Anti-Defamation League, have devoted thousands of words to slandering, misrepresenting, and condemning me personally. All this material is available with a click of a mouse to students, booking offices, and professors on every campus in America.

In the early 1990s when I spoke at USC I rented a lecture room for \$28. I placed an ad in the *Daily Trojan* to appear the day before the event, and when the threats began to come in to the administration I was provided with two armed guards at no cost. That was the norm in those days. It isn't now. Consider Cal State Chico less than three months ago.

I am now going to encounter problems similar to those I encountered at Cal State Chico wherever I go. I have to change tactics. I cannot book three and four campuses in one region at one time and expect to be able to protect the bookings on the one hand and promote them properly on the other.

Rather, I will book one room at a time, preferably a larger venue, and promote that one talk as extensively as possible. This will simplify my work, and simplify the work of those who are on the ground there with me.

We will be more likely to get significant press from one talk given to a substantial audience and promoted widely, than from three or four bookings over a period of several days that we do not have time to either secure or promote properly. Press from one significant urban newspaper will be of more use to us than press from any number of small-town papers.

You (yes—you) might be the key to booking a room where we have a good possibility of getting press. You're on the ground in your neighborhood. You may know someone, or know someone who knows someone, who can nail down a good venue for us.

If the campus is a thousand miles or so from Southern California, we will have to factor in all the relevant expenses, and all the possibilities to create press, and then decide if it is worth our while. If you have a contact that would be helpful at a campus that would be helpful to us, get in touch with him or her. Then get in touch with me. We'll work it out.

# BOOKING RADIO

After 9/11 the public consciousness turned toward the Middle East and has remained there. Public discourse about revisionist arguments became increasingly difficult to promote in media. No matter that revisionism has something important to say about the disaster in the Middle East, about the U.S./Israeli alliance, about Imperialism, wars of "choice," and the colonization of one people by another. Revisionism simply does not resonate in media the way we caused it to resonate in the 1990s. We have three practical issues to deal with.

One: I must have a good database of radio talk show hosts and producers. That list is produced by Alex Carroll. It costs \$397. I should use it every 30 days. The costs of the mailings will be about \$500 each. And then there is the matter of telephone charges from here in Baja. Maybe \$200 a month. I need a sponsor for this, or two or three who will join together to share the costs.

Two: I have to write press releases that are relevant to today's headlines, from a perspective that will reveal the importance of revisionist arguments to what is happening, today, in America and in the Middle East. To have someone in the background who can supply me with catchy headlines, would be beneficial. A good headline makes all the difference with a press release. A "detail," but maybe the most important detail of the release.

Three: When I create a story on campus in any region in America, that will be a story that I can take to talk show producers. If the story is controversial, and it is in their backyard, they will be interested. If I am in that neighborhood, I can do in-studio interviews. Hosts like that. It's best when we're face to face, for both of us.

Last year when I asked SR readers to send me ideas about radio shows that might be open to having me as a guest, I was surprised to see how many of the programs you suggested were Internet-based. I had no experience with such programming. Internetbased radio came along in the mid-90s, after I stopped doing radio regularly. I did do several of the shows that were recommended, the last being with Tom Valentine, but did not recognize any direct value to the project.

Another troubling aspect to Internetbased radio is that there is no way to get an idea of what number of listeners the program has. Programs like the Jeff Rense program (where Mark Weber has appeared several times) apparently have a substantial listening audience. But for the others, I remain in the dark. If any of you have such figures, I would like to see them.

Once I have the proper database to hand, I will begin to solicit radio. In the best possible world, I would have one or two volunteer booking agents to help here. Radio is a magnificent opportunity for us, but we need to go after it professionally. Requirements for being a booking agent include a good database of stations, which I will provide. A telephone. A good proposal-I will write it but am open to suggestions-that will inform and entertain the listening audience. The willingness to follow up with producers, knowing that you will hear "No" more often than you will hear "Yes."

I have never asked anyone to help me book radio. I always did this myself. I'm older now. I'm wiser. I am at long last accepting the fact that I can get more done with your help than I can without it. It's a simple insight, but it was late in coming.

I should add here that 1 will, of course, remain responsible for producing the press releases, background material, the lists of suggested questions for hosts so that they do not have to reinvent the wheel in order to talk to me, and the maintenance of the Web sites. Let's talk about it.

## A NEW INTERNET NEWSLETTER

## SMITH'S REPORT ONLINE

Today, while the strategy for the Project remains what it was, new tactics are called for. An online newsletter has finally become a necessity for me. It will function as the center of the "web" of interrelated projects that we are consolidating now, notifying the various interested audiences of what is happening with each segment of the work and their significance for the Project as a whole.

The online Z-Gram initiated by Ingrid Rimland (Zundel) in the late 1990s is the most interesting demonstration of both the value of an online newsletter, and how labor-intensive it can be. At the beginning, Ingrid wrote an original column for the Z-Gram five days a week. You have to be exceptionally focused, gifted, and competent to do that. She is. You must make the time. That is only possible if the online newsletter is the centerpiece of your work. For Ingrid, it was. Her Z-Gram quickly became one of a handful of the most important revisionist projects on, or off, the Internet.

It was an absolutely bravura performance that no one else among revisionists has even attempted to emulate. Nevertheless, after two years or so, even Ingrid found that writing an original Z-Gram column five days a week was just too much. She began to write fewer columns, to replace them with stories and documents that were brought to her attention by her readers or through her own research, with lead-in commentary.

When Ernst was extradited to Canada and imprisoned there, Ingrid's Z-Gram became the voice of all those who have been involved in Ernst's legal challenges to his imprisonment, the coordinating and publicizing center of his case to the world. The Z-Gram is (more than) a fulltime job for its editor and publisher.

Each morning when I first click on the Google Internet search engine I am informed that Google is in the process of searching 4,285,199,774 (that's four *billion*!) Web pages for me. That does not include the hundreds of millions of individuals who use the Internet but do not have Web pages. Through the Internet we have access to the largest audience the world has ever known. An online email newsletter is, or can be, a practical tool to reach a significant part of that audience.

The idea for doing my own online newsletter has been in the back of my mind for a long while. I have been very prudent (for once) in not just jumping into such a project. Slowly, the appropriate form for such a newsletter has become apparent to me. It is a very simple idea, but will address its audience from a unique perspective.

I will call my newsletter, simply, Smith's Report Online (SRO). SRO will do only one thing. It will announce to the Internet world, which is (shall we say?) all the civilized world and much of the rest of it, what is happening with The Campaign to Decriminalize Holocaust History.

When I get a booking for a radio interview, I will announce the station, date and time via the SRO mailing list so that if you are in the area, you will be able to listen. Then I will post this "press release" in the CDHH Online "Press Room."

I will do the same when I book a campus speaking date. If there is any press during the lead-up to the talk, or following it, I will note that in SRO and give the Internet link (URL) to the article. Note: I will not write an article about the story for SRO. If I do write something about the press I receive, it will be addressed to the relevant newspaper and meant to be published there. If it is not, I can then note that in SRO and post it online.

But I will write no original material for SRO. Only press releases about campus speaking dates, radio interviews, and alerts that will refer the reader to materials published by third parties regarding the Project. It will have one purpose: to keep SRO readers up to date on how the Project is developing.

At the same time, even this is an extra job. Every minute counts. In the best of all possible worlds, I would want someone to volunteer to help with SRO. If you know someone who knows someone who would help take care it for us, that would be the way to go.

## THE CAMPAIGN TO DECRIMNALIZE HOLOCAUST HISTORY (CDHH)

The Web page for CDHH is meant to reassure campus organizations and talk show producers that we are serious and are the kind of people they will feel comfortable dealing with and talking to. The "Statement of Principle" (SOP) is on the site in its entirety. (If you have not seen the finished, printed version of this booklet, give me a call or send me a postcard asking for it and I'll send it along. It's gotten very good reviews by many veteran revisionists.)

I will soon add two new series of documents to the CDHH Web site. One will be dedicated to individual revisionists who have written books for which they have been prosecuted, jailed, or forced into exile for revisionist thought crimes.

The other will be excerpts from, and links to, documents produced by Human Rights and Free Speech organizations that publicly condemn free speech for Holocaust revisionists. In some cases the documents will demonstrate that these organizations go so far as to *support* the prosecution of revisionists for thought crimes—as with the case of Ernst Zundel. The irony of these documents will be selfevident.

I welcome your volunteer help in accumulating these documents and posting them. Maybe you know someone who knows someone ....

## BREAK HIS BONES ONLINE AND ON THE ROAD

In the fall of 2002 my primary aim was to promote *Break His Bones*, to go on the road with it to campus, to radio, and promote it via the Internet. I thought it would be easy. I was wrong. Now I have been told that it is too late for *Bones*, and that I should accept that fact.

I have been told that what happened with *Bones* is what happens with books that are self-published and have no promotional budget. Particularly revisionist books. And that now that *Bones* is no longer a new book, it will be even more difficult to market. I have been urged to accept the fact that *Bones* is dead in the water, not waste any more time with it, and move on to other elements of the Project.

Sometimes it's difficult to get across the idea that, as a matter of fact, I have not promoted Bones. Revisionists know about Bones, but there is hardly anyone else, anywhere on the planet, who knows that Bones exists. I spent months studying how to market books via the Internet. I found a "hundred" good ways to market a book. I found so many ways to market it that I did not follow through with any one of them.

So-the market is still wide open. Wide open! I have the same opportunity to find a market for Bones today that I had when the book first came off the press in September 2002. I was incredibly dumb in how I handled the book in 2002-2003. The world awaits me. I'm not chopped liver. No one knows I'm alive, or that Bones exists. As they find out, they will be happy to hear from me.

How am I going to proceed with marketing *Bones* and making it an icon for revisionism? Let us count the ways. Briefly. There will be much more to tell in the months ahead. But here we are now.

First, there is the Web page dedicated to marketing *Bones*. It has full ordering information, including an 800 number, a fax number, and a way to buy the book using your credit card. It has a series of pages giving autobiographical background on the author, background that is not the usual run of stuff. The challenge is to make people aware that this Web page exists.

There is one series of documents that absolutely must be on the *Bones* Web site but is not there: testimonies from people who have read the book and liked it. This will make a tremendous difference to the marketability of the site. I want to have one long page devoted entirely to glowing reviews and testimonies about *Bones*.

This is pretty basic stuff, but I have not yet done it. When *Bones* was first published I received many such letters. I would thank their authors, then let the letters get away from me. I don't understand why. It goes against every marketing principle there is, and every principle of book marketing.

If you have read *Bones*, and liked it, and have the time to go over it again and tell me what you like about it and why you judge it to be a worthwhile read, I would very much appreciate hearing from you by post, or via email. Your letter will be most effective if I can use your full name, but if that's not a good idea for you, we'll work something out. Here I am (he says modestly), awaiting your considered, enthusiastic praise.

Second, everyone who visits the Web sites for CODOH and The Campaign to Decriminalize Holocaust History will find a find a link to the Home Page for *Break His Bones*. The *Bones* page has a good deal of interesting background on Smith, a kind of background that is not going to be found on the Web page of any other revisionist—and certainly not on the pages maintained by the ADL or the American Jewish Committee. I understand that these are all "passive" marketing tools, but they are primary.

Third: When I do radio, I will give listeners the 800 number where *Bones* can be ordered via telephone right then. I'll try to work it out to give the number twice in each half hour. I will give out the Web page URL as well, for those who want to discover more background on the book and on its author. That's what the page is for.

Fourth: Every online press release distributed via *Smith's Report Online* about the Project will include a reference to *Break His Bones* that the reader will be able to click on and go straight to the *Bones* Web page. This tool carries with it immense possibilities. We'll see what I make of them.

At the beginning, and perhaps in the end as well, I think radio will sell more books than anything else. The great advantage of radio is that there is a live host and a live guest discussing a controversial topic in real time. For the same reasons, radio will create the best story for revisionism, in the quickest, easiest, least expensive way. I eagerly await your response to my call in SR 106 for the money to buy Alex Carroll's database for radio talk shows. And to pay for the monthly solicitations. We will reach hundreds of thousands of people via radio. We may very well reach millions. I know of at least twenty AM radio talk shows that reach one to seven million listeners each, daily. We can get there. Not with the opening shot, but we can get there. I will keep you up to date here in SR about how many people we are reaching.

While I have returned momentarily to the subject of radio, I want to make one more important point. When I did all that radio before, I focused on trying to encourage an open debate on the "Holocaust," and particularly on the gas chambers. One result was that when I was on air nearly all the back and forth focused on the specifics of what was true and untrue about the gas chamber story and the Holocaust story generally. On what was "true."

On radio, however, I cannot "prove" that there were no "holes" in the roof of Krema II at Birkenau—Robert Faurisson's "no hole, no Holocaust" proposition. I cannot "prove" that the famous pictures of a mass grave at Belsen did not show victims of mass gassings.

I can argue the case over and over again, but "proving" such matters, in less than one hour on radio, is simply not possible. In the end, listeners will have heard some interesting back and forth, but will have no way to know who is right and who's pulling their leg. Were there "holes" in the roof of Krema II when the Soviet army overran Auschwitz, or were there not?

What I am doing now will focus on encouraging an open debate on the Holocaust, just as it always has, but from a perspective that is both dramatically, as well as subtly, different. I will not be drawn into debates over the chemical, engineering, or historical issues surrounding the gas-chamber stories. I am not an expert on any of that, and in any event nothing can be proven or even well debated in the time allowed by a radio interview, or a talk before a student audience.

My approach now, summarized by The Campaign to Decriminalize Holocaust History, is to focus on how it has become a "thought crime" throughout Europe and other Western nations to simply address an historical issue from a skeptical point of view, and how it is moving in that direction in America and how the professors approve of it.

I am not an expert on gas chambers, crematoria, or Zyklon B. I am an expert, however, on how the suppression and censorship of revisionist arguments work in the academy and in the press in America. I am an expert on how academics and journalists—the caretakers of American public culture—use slander, lies, and misinformation to defend the corrupt and indefensible charge of the "unique monstrosity" of the Germans.

I am an expert on how revisionists and revisionist arguments and revisionist books and journals are suppressed and institutionally censored in the press and universities. Very few people in America have experienced more censorship, more slander, more misleading attacks by more academics and journalists than I have both in the press and on campus. I know how this stuff works, because it has been used against me time after time after time for twenty years.

I have a few very simple questionsto discuss with talk show hosts, journalists, students, and academics: Why is the questioning of received wisdom on one historical issue condemned as "hate" speech? Why are silence and obedience to orthodoxy thought to be good, while independent thought and resistance to slander and censorship are condemned as evil? Who benefits, and who is victimized? Here and abroad?

As I go on my way in the months before us, I am going to stay with the proposition that it is not in the interests of Western culture, America, or any one of us, to imprison radical scholars, or to suppress and censor radical speech and radical books. The primary definition of the word "radical" is that it "relates to, or proceeds from a root." Exactly! Intellectual freedom is at the root of Western culture and the ideals of liberty and intellectual freedom.

These are matters, unlike gas chambers and who-shot-John, that I will never tire of talking about.

#### THE BOTTOM LINE FOR THIS ISSUE OF SR

When I sat down to begin to write this document, it was the day before the Fourth of July. My idea that morning was that it was to be a two-page appeal for funds. I seldom write a stand-alone appeal for funds. I did write such an appeal toward the end of February when I needed help to print the CDHH Statement of Principle, and funds to cover travel and booking expenses for the April tour. The response of those of you who received that appeal was very generous. It saw me through the printing of 10,000 copies of the CDHH booklet, the April tour, and everything else until the end of May.

Gradually, my "two-page" appeal took on a life of its own. I have ended by outlining—it is barely, barely, the tip of the iceberg—my 20-year odyssey of trying to get Holocaust revisionist arguments into the mainstream. I have completed a lot of work, most of it quite successful, and from a perspective that has been uniquely American—if I can put it that way. I fully expect the coming year of this campaign to be our best since the 2000-2001 academic year.

I knew at the beginning, on that now fateful day of 4 July 1984, that I was going to have a hard time making a living writing about Holocaust revisionism. I was not distraught by knowing that. I had grown up in a working class family in South Central Los Angeles (that's where they do the riots now), and psychologically, with respect to financial matters, have never really left that environment.

For the most part, money has been neither here nor there for me. When I threw in with the revisionists I had been writing for years without making any money at it. Writing about revisionism would be more of the same. I knew that. I suppose I could say that changed a bit when I joined the folks at IHR. And now of course I make my living with *Smith's Report*, which I suppose removes me from the working class and makes me an "intellectual" worker. Whatever. If we were all commies, that might mean something.

I have lived from hand to mouth doing revisionist work for twenty years. Revisionism was all I did. In 1997 it led to my having to file bankruptcy and move to Mexico. It was a real bother, but there was nothing for it. Fortunately (for me), my wife of 26 years grew up in circumstances in central Mexico that make my own background look absolutely elegant. I had nothing when she and I met, and when we married she knew that she should not expect much. Occasionally, when things are bad, she will sigh and say that it would have been better for her if she had married a plumber, but that's her way of making a joke. I tell myself.

The situation at the moment is that we have no money. It's a very different situation than it was seven years ago when I had to file bankruptcy for \$64,000. At that time we were living in a rented house in Visalia, in the Central Valley in California. The Campus Project and CODOHWeb were both going great guns. I was working day and night on the projects. In my mind there was every indication that I was on the edge of a real breakthrough with students, which would force a breakthrough in academia and the media. I was borrowing money on credit cards to take care of what was not being taken care of by supporters. No one asked me to do that. It was something I thought I should do.

This time the money situation is very different. There is no money around here at all. But all the work I have done since coming to Mexico has been cash and carry. I pushed the Campus Project straight through the 2001-2002 academic year. I held up CODOHWeb until the same time. I printed *Break His Bones*. Over the last two years I have done what I have done—which includes printing 10,000 copies of the CDHH booklet, and the incredibly expensive (by my standards) April campus tour—only because I had your support.

My credit card debt as of this writing, after seven years of non-stop work from Baja, is \$250 (two-<u>hundred</u> fifty dollars). I borrowed that amount about ten days ago only because we needed groceries and had to pay a couple telephone bills. But there will be no more going into debt, no more bankruptcies. I'm going to pay as I go.

One of the ironies of this businessthat-is-not-a-business is that after 1991, until the publication of *Bones*, I did not consider even trying to create a second income stream, one in addition to Smith's Report. I thought of nothing but the "story," how much print press I could get, how much electronic media I could create for revisionism. How successful I could be in getting out the "good news." I have been rather "innocent" in that way. Subscribers to Smith's Report, and your contributions, have been my only source of income—other than my social security check.

The idea of creating an income stream that was independent of *Smith's Report* formed rather quickly once I closed down the original Campus Project and began the work of finishing *Break His Bones*. It was at that time that I began my study of Internet marketing and began collecting the "100" marketing ideas for *Bones*—100 out of the thousands that are circulating on the Internet.

We all know how that has turned out, up to this moment. I'm going to re-start the *Bones* promotion in August. The book will begin to move. Very slowly at first, but it will begin to move. I will begin to create a second income stream, a trickle at first, but a trickle that will supplement my income from *Smith's Report*.

There is more than one plus to marketing *Bones*. There is the added income stream, though it may be small. More importantly, at first, is the effect that creating a buzz for *Break His Bones* will have in the real world. "Buzz" is everything for a book that has no high-profile publisher behind it.

Buzz about Bones on campus. Buzz about Bones on radio. Buzz about Bones and its author all over the Internet and the World Wide Web? The buzz about people actually beginning to buy Bones. Buzz about some of those readers becoming contributors to the author of Bones and his work for revisionism.

This is the situation right now. I need you to pitch in—again. You may be one of those who contributed only recently. If you are, and it is at all possible, I need you to send something extra—yet again. This may sound to you that it is far beyond the call of duty. I understand. But without your help, I'm looking at something here I can't quite make out.

And on that note, my best regards.

**PS:** We can move this work forward. There is simply no doubt about it. I have a uniquely American perspective with which to approach media and the campus. It is a radical view of intellectual freedom and the right of all, not some, to enjoy and employ the best ideals of American culture.

I argue for the decriminalization of Holocaust and WWII history and against the concept of "thought crimes." I am good with students and media in more ways than one, not least because I am willing to be completely open with them.

Nothing I have outlined above costs a fortune to initiate or maintain. Yet it can create *hundreds of thousands* of dollars worth of publicity for revisionism. Please contribute. We're at a turning point here. This is the time.

